

QUEBEC'S

Burning hate

For God and Christ and Freedom
Is the shame of all Canada



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*This for districts
only in Canada*

BEFORE the hot denials and protests and false countercharges boom out from the priestly keepers of Quebec province and whip up an unreasonable frenzy, calmly and soberly and with clear mental faculties reason on the evidence presented in support of the above-headlined indictment. Words in lip service to God and Christ and freedom can be as cheap as the free wind it takes to utter them, but actions speak louder to reasoning minds. As God's Word says, "Let us not love in word, nor in tongue, but in deed." (1 John 3:18, *Catholic Douay Version Bible*). Is your mind reasonable enough to let you listen to loud-speaking deeds that count for more than easy words? Are you willing and unafraid to allow the evidence to be weighed in the just balances of God's true Word, and see whether Quebec is found wanting in love for God and Christ and freedom? The few minutes so spent in reasoning will not make it too late for you to thereafter believe the hot denials and protests and false countercharges booming out of religious Quebec, if you still wish to. But now, pause and consider:

Is it love for God that moves Quebec mobs to tear copies of God's Word, the Bible, to shreds and burn them in the flames? Is it an evidence of love for Christ for these same religious mobs to club and stone Christ's followers, hound them throughout the province, damage their property, and otherwise go on deliriously wild rampages of vandalism against Christ's brethren? Did not Christ

say: "As long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me"? (Matthew 25:40, *Douay*) Did the parish priests that have stood by and approvingly witnessed such outrages show regard or disregard for Christian principles? And what about Quebec's law-making bodies that frame mischief by law to "get" those not favored by the ruling elements? and her police forces that allow mobsters to riot unchecked while they arrest the Christian victims, sometimes for no more than distributing Bibles or leaflets with Bible quotations, or even as these followers of Christ walk along the streets or wait for a streetcar? and what of her judges that impose heavy fines and prison sentences against them and heap abusive language upon them, and deliberately follow a malicious policy of again and again postponing cases to tie up tens of thousands of dollars in exorbitant bails and keep hundreds of cases pending? Do such legislators and police and judges of Quebec thereby show their love for freedom? Honestly, do you think such fruits are borne by love, or by hate? "By their fruits you shall know them."—Matthew 7:20, *Douay Version Bible*.

In a torrential downpour all the foregoing violences and injustices rain down daily upon Jehovah's witnesses in Quebec province. Now do we hear you say to yourself, "Ah, Jehovah's witnesses! I thought so. They are always in trouble"? Because they are often persecuted, or because they are an unpopular minority, or because they may have been misrepre-

sented to you by incorrect reports, that is not just cause for a hasty dismissal of the matter. On the contrary, it is all the stronger reason for fair-minded persons to hear out all the evidence.

Were not Christ and early Christians persecuted often? an unpopular minority? and grossly misrepresented by religious liars? If you can identify enemies by their fruits, by the fruits of Jehovah's witnesses you may also know them as true followers of Christ. Both the message they preach and the methods by which they preach it have full backing and foundation in the Bible, as you will soon see if you allow one of Jehovah's witnesses to explain them to you instead of listening to the lying and prejudicial reports of the witnesses' persecutors. But neither space nor subject permit full discussion of these matters here, and such discussion is not at all necessary. It does not alter the issue here at stake. Whether you agree or disagree with the witnesses, you do know for a certainty that it does not show love for God, Christ, Bible principles and freedom to burn Bibles and to mob and stone and falsely arrest and imprison those endeavoring to serve God. Such deeds are the outgrowth of burning hate, and cause the finger of shame to point to Canada.

HATEFUL PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

A brief sketch of only a few of the instances of persecution of and violence against Jehovah's witnesses in Quebec

province is now submitted as concrete evidence. These facts are well known to many of the inhabitants of Quebec, and can be proved. Listen:

In Lachine, September 15, 1945, mob action blazed fiercely against Jehovah's witnesses as they advertised the holding of a Bible lecture. Street assaults reached their height when the large Catholic mob laid siege to the shop and home of Joseph Letellier, who, with three other witnesses, was inside. The plate glass display window was shattered and rocks and tomatoes poured through the windows in a steady stream. Witness Joyce was struck full in the chest, and as Witness Letellier tried to phone police one vandal dashed in and smashed the elderly man in the face, inflicting a long gash on his face and knocking his glasses to the floor. The witnesses barricaded themselves in and endured the rain of rocks for more than five hours. Until midnight, two hours after other witnesses had helped the besieged ones escape under cover of darkness through a narrow 25-foot rear passage, irate mobsters bombarded the building. The entire front was wrecked, and the valuable clocks inside the shop destroyed.

In the mobocratic city of Chateauguay, September 9, 1945, witnesses were advertising a Bible lecture to be held that afternoon in City Hall Park. City officials instigated the unlawful arrest of fifteen witnesses and decreed they could not use City Hall Park for the Bible talk. The lecture location was moved to the yard of R. W. Weaner's private home. Some 125 attended the lecture to hear, but by starting time a mob of 1,200 were there to break up. They had brought along a truck loaded with tomatoes and potatoes, and to these missiles added a generous sprinkling of stones as the barrage got under way. Two big fire sirens had been brought, and these were used to drown out the speaker's voice. In vain did the witnesses appeal to Provincial Police who had arrived following the emergency call to Montreal. The meeting broke up amid violence, and damage to the Weaner home was heavy.

Previously laid plans called for another Bible lecture in Chateauguay the Sunday following. This time the city's mob-ruled officials arrested 17 witnesses (Quebec police never molest the mobsters), and a mob of 1,500 was on hand at the Weaner home to break up the second meeting. Not satisfied with throwing tomatoes

and potatoes and rocks, this time the Catholic hoodlums added to the bombardment cucumbers, rotten eggs and *human excrement!* The police ordered the witnesses' loud-speakers silenced or Mrs. Weaner would be arrested for disturbing the peace. Some of the buses that had brought the witnesses were returned to Montreal empty, stranding scores of witnesses. After several beatings at the hands of the mob, the Christian assemblers were evacuated. The last group, about 40, were fleeing cross country when they were overtaken by mobsters in cars. Though under the protective escort of five Provincial and three Chateauguay policemen, many witnesses were injured in the attack that followed and their literature, including Bibles (and the witnesses often carry Catholic Bibles, too), was forcibly seized and torn to bits and burned. And note this: it is reliably reported that during the mobbing the Catholic priest in his long black robes stood just across the street calmly looking on! This is no insignificant fact, in a province where the priest rules the parish and one word from him would dispel any mob!

One year later, September 8, 1946, a riot at Caughnawaga, a village on the outskirts of Montreal, was reported. Resident Indian witnesses had invited fellow witnesses from Lachine to assist in their Bible service, and extended invitations to other residents of the reserve to attend. Strenuous effort was made to incite the Indians to violently break up the meeting. Upon being asked to furnish protection, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police flatly refused; but they did arrest the chairman of the Bible meeting and drove off with him amid the yells of the mob. The undispersed mobsters continued for half an hour to pelt with missiles the house into which the assembly had retired for shelter.

Here are some instances revealing Quebec's hatred for God's Word as well as for freedom: In Hull, E. M. Taylor, septuagenarian, of Namur, Quebec, was sentenced to seven days in prison for having distributed Bibles without a permit. In Recorder's Court his attempted explanation was curtly ended by the recorder's ordering him off to prison. Two of Jehovah's witnesses were arrested for distributing free a Bible pamphlet, charged with sedition, and sentenced to 60 days imprisonment or \$300 fine. All the French Canadian courts were so

under priestly thumbs that they affirmed the infamous sentence, and it was not until the case reached the Supreme Court of Canada that judgment was reversed. One Quebec witness of Jehovah was distributing a leaflet bearing only the words "The Holy Bible Is the Word of God. Read It", and some familiar verses of the *Crampon Version Bible*. So incensed were the Mounted Police that they arrested her, searched her home, and jailed her.

The following affidavit of one of Jehovah's witnesses reports what is regularly happening on the streets of Quebec City:

"Two men came to me while I was displaying the magazines *The Watchtower* and *Consolation* and asked if I had a license to do it. One was very filthy-mouthed and caused quite a commotion. He suddenly tore my case and magazines and then used me for a punching bag for a few seconds until my teeth were rattling. They crossed the road, evidently with the intention of molesting my companion, an elderly minister. I crossed also, thinking he would get the same dose as I. They tore his magazines, and there was much confusion and ripping of magazine bag. Then they turned on me again, but two taxi drivers interfered and things cooled off. As I went back to get my magazine bag and gather up the torn magazines one of these men shouted, 'Don't let him do that; get him!' So again they gave me a good pounding. Eventually breaking away, I escaped and took refuge in a store by locking the door. The manager of the store refused to phone the police on my request. When the crowd cleared I gathered up my torn magazines and continued preaching at another intersection."

Still Quebec City, but with scene shifted to a private home, another recent affidavit of a witness paints this picture of vandalism and hate:

"A mob of 25 young men gathered around one of the homes where a Bible study was in progress and a chunk of ice was hurled through a double window into the kitchen of the house. The owner had been a commando in the army, but has now taken a definite stand for God's kingdom. When he ran into the street the mob disappeared into the community building next to the church. The next night, about 11:00 p.m., following the closing down of the recreation hall, a small gang began to gather. Finally a carload came, but two local policemen chased them away. The following morning the owner and his friend reported the matter at the police station, to have the man who was caught questioned. They soon found

out that the priest had phoned the officers and told them to lay off. Similar mobs were active every night during that week and windows were smashed. The police caught 6 of the gang and obtained 45 other names, but nothing was done. The mob, seeing that no action was taken, got more daring each night. Last night the mob began collecting at 8:00 p.m., and was the worst yet. More windows were broken. The gang got onto the roof and some made their way up onto the roof of the two-story house opposite and were throwing missiles down at the doors if anyone went in or out. The police were called twice and finally came."

Christ Jesus taught at the homes of the people, and also the apostles and other early Christians went "from house to house, to teach and preach". (Acts 5:42; 20:20; *Douay Version Bible*) Judge how they would now be received in the proud capital city of Quebec province, as indicated by what was meted out to one of Christ's followers as he trudged from house to house there:

"I had placed a Bible textbook with a woman and was standing at the next door when a man climbed over the veranda rail with the book in his hand, telling me to come with him, that he was going to phone the police. He was not the householder of the premises where I had left the textbook, but just a neighbor of this woman. He opened the door, bidding me go in. There was another man standing in the hall, and of course I refused. With this he seized me and told the young man to phone the police, and due to his violence he ripped my coat. I warned him not to carry his actions too far. He then told me he was a policeman and that I had to go in. The lady with whom I had placed the book then came to the door of the house and was very displeased with this man's action. Ignoring her, he put on his uniform and laid the charge himself when we arrived at the police station."

Religionists know no bounds in their zeal to persecute. A 9-year-old girl, daughter of one of Jehovah's witnesses, was distributing circulars when she was picked up and detained at police court, charged with soliciting without possessing a \$25 city permit. She had to appear at juvenile court for a hearing. Again, an 11-year-old child of one of Jehovah's witnesses in the district of Ste. Germaine had been expelled from school for refusing to make the "sign of the cross" and to say the catechism. The parents explained the child's beliefs, and the

teacher excused it from participating in the ceremony. But two weeks later a priest visited the school, and soon after the child was expelled. Capping religious zeal, however, was the time when Royal Canadian Mounted Police charged into a hall in Montreal where Jehovah's witnesses were celebrating the Lord's Supper. The police broke up the meeting, refusing the presiding minister's request that the service might be completed. Can the most fantastic imagination picture the police disrupting mass at a Roman Catholic Church?

Jehovah's witnesses have waged battles for freedom in seeking to dislodge its haters from their entrenched position in Quebec. Due to the large number of arrests that have taken place in Montreal and district, the witnesses challenged the constitutionality of Montreal and Verdun by-laws, under which the charges are made. Jehovah's witnesses won in Superior Court, and Justice C. Gordon MacKinnon ordered writs of prohibition issued against the Recorders' Courts of Montreal and Verdun to restrain further proceedings against the witnesses. He ruled the by-laws were suppressive of free worship, press and speech.

But regardless of this decision, the lawless arrests of Jehovah's witnesses continue almost daily in Montreal and district, and in the Recorders' Courts they are subjected to abusive tirades. For example, in June of 1946 Recorder Leonce Plante denounced the witnesses as a "bunch of crazy nuts", set cash bail as high as \$200, and threatened that if some witnesses came before him again bail would be \$1,000. At present, 1946, there are about 800 charges stacked up against Jehovah's witnesses in Greater Montreal, with property bail now involved being \$100,000 and cash bail more than \$2,000. Court cases are adjourned time after time, to inconvenience and increase expense for Jehovah's witnesses. To have their cases heard, during one short period the witnesses had to appear on 38 different occasions!

THE FORCE BEHIND QUEBEC'S BURNING HATE

Why this hate for God and His Word? for Christ and his followers? Why this hate for righteous principles and freedom? *Why? WHY?* Jehovah's witnesses preach in all the other Canadian provinces, without any smouldering hate

bursting into flaming mobocracy. Why should it be so in Quebec province? Wherein is Quebec different? The following will enlighten you to see clearly the moving force behind Quebec's hate:

An officer arresting one of Jehovah's witnesses in Quebec City told the witness he was ordered to do it by Mr. Lavergne, the parish curate. A French Catholic lawyer defending one of Jehovah's witnesses was told by the city attorney, the court clerk and the deputy chief of police that the arrests were illegal, but that they were so hard pressed by the clergy that they had to make it as difficult as possible for the witnesses. Four witnesses arrested in Quebec City were told by representatives of the police department that delegations from the bishop's palace called daily and insisted that the witnesses were a menace to the Catholic Church and that it was the duty of police to get rid of them, law or no law. A deputy chief of police once admitted that he was never so annoyed by priests as when cases against Jehovah's witnesses were pending. And it is so often noticed that the officer emerges from the back door of the church or convent before making the arrest! Why, Catholic domination of Quebec courts is so complete that in the courtrooms the imagery of the crucifix takes the place of the British Coat of Arms, which appears in other courts throughout the Dominion!

All well informed persons in Canada grant that Quebec province with its 86-percent-Catholic population is under church-and-state rule. In the Quebec legislature the crucifix is placed above the Speaker's Chair, and in the Quebec Parliament buildings alongside the throne of the lieutenant-governor of Quebec is installed a throne for the cardinal. It was reportedly the cardinal who instigated the notorious Padlock Act, supposedly against a mere handful of Communists, but which Act left "Communist" undefined so that anyone not suiting the priests and their puppet politicians could be prosecuted. The Act was used against Jehovah's witnesses. The Quebec cardinal also headed a campaign for a corporate state to regiment the people behind the clergy, a program based on Pius XI's encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*. Catholic secret societies, backed by French Canadian hierarchy, have been charged before the Canadian Senate as conspiring to turn Quebec

province into a French Catholic Corporate state; and these charges were made by Senator Bouchard, a Frenchman, a Catholic, and from Quebec! Quebec has an unsavory reputation for isolationism, fascism and anti-Semitism. She lives up to it hatefully well, and now seeks to root herself deeper in religious totalitarianism by her legislature's demand that the Canadian prime minister "bring before the Parliament of Canada the measures required to institute an embassy at the Holy See".

All the facts unite to thunderously declare that the force behind Quebec's suicidal hate is priest domination. Thousands of Quebec Catholics are so blinded by the priests that they think they serve God's cause in mobbing Jehovah's witnesses. Jesus foretold this, saying to his followers: "The hour cometh, that whosoever killeth you, will think that he doth a service to God." (John 16:2, *Douay Version Bible*) Such blind course will lead to the ditch of destruction. To

avoid it turn from following men and traditions, and study and follow the Bible's teaching; that was Jesus' advice. (Matthew 15:1-14) So doing, honest Quebec Catholics will show love for God and Christ and freedom not only by words but also by righteous deeds. They will join with the many thousands of other Quebec people, Catholic and Protestant and non-religious, that have vigorously protested the wicked treatment meted out to Jehovah's witnesses in that benighted, priest-ridden province.

Quebec, Jehovah's witnesses are telling all Canada of the shame you have brought on the nation by your evil deeds. In English, French and Ukrainian languages this leaflet is broadcasting your delinquency to the nation. You claim to serve God; you claim to be for freedom. Yet if freedom is exercised by those who disagree with you, you crush freedom by mob rule and gestapo tactics. Though your words are, your actions are not in harmony with that for which democracies have just fought a long

and bloody global war. And your claims of serving God are just as empty, for your actions find no precedent in the exemplary course laid down for Christians by His Son, Christ Jesus. You should remember that though Christ Jesus and early Christians were often mobbed, they never under any circumstances meted out mob violence. What counts is not whom you claim to serve, but whom you actually do serve by deeds. The Catholic Version Bible says: "Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are whom you obey." (Romans 6:16) Quebec, you have yielded yourself as an obedient servant of religious priests, and you have brought forth bumper crops of evil fruits. Now, why not study God's Word the Bible and yield yourself in obedience to its commands, and see how bounteous a crop of good fruits reflecting love for God and Christ and freedom you will bring forth? The eyes of Canada are upon you, Quebec.

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